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Department of State

INCOMING TELEGRAM

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-15 ADS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
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FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0058
INFO AMEBASSY ABIDJAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BANGUI IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KIGALI IMMEDIATE
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AMEMBASSY LOME IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS DAKAR 6198

E.O. 12065: N/A
TAGS: SHUM, CT
SUBJECT: AFRICAN JURISTS COMMISSION ON THE EVENTS OF BANGUI--
PRESS CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 214657

1. AT PRESS CONFERENCE IN DAKAR AUGUST 16. JUDGE YOUSSOUPHA NDIAYE OF SENEGAL, CHAIRMAN OF THE 5-MAN NATIONS JURISTS COMMISSION ON THE CAE, REVEALED THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE COMMISSION. THEY WERE THAT AT LEAST 100 PERSONS, MOSTLY CHILDREN, WERE KILLED WHILE UNDER DETENTION IN BANGUI AND THAT THE PARTICIPATION OF EMPEROR BOKASSA IN THE KILLINGS WAS QUASI-CERTAIN. THE COMPLETE TEXT OF THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE COMMISSION HAS BEEN TRANSMITTED BY SEPTEL. THIS CALBE TRANSMITS THE TEXT OF THE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS WHICH FOLLOWED THE STATEMENT OF THE COMMISSION'S CONCLUSIONS.

2. QUOTE: RESPONDING THE QUESTIONS BY JOURNALISTS MR. NDIAYE IN ADDITION AFFIRMED THAT THE PARTICIPATION OF THE ZAIRIAN ARMY IN THESE EVENTS WAS VERIFIED AND PROVED BY NUMEROUS SOLDIERS KILLED OR ARRESTED AND IDENTIFIED AS SUCH, ACCORDING TO NUMEROUS STAEMENTS BY WITNESSES. UNQUOTE.

3. QUOTE. ASKED TO SAY WHETHER MEMBERS OF THE MISSION WERE THE OBJECT OF PESSURE OR CORRUPTION, ME. NDIAYE ANSWEREED IN THE NEGATIVE. HOWEVER, HE DID NOT HIDE THAT NUMEROUS DIFFICULTIES WERE ENCOUNTERED PARTICULARLY IN REGARD TO CONTACTS AS WELL AS WITH OFFICIALS AND WITH THE POPULATION AT LARGE. MR. NDIAYE ALSO STRESSED THE GREAT HOPE WHICH THE PEOPLE HAD PLACED IN THE MISSION. IN THIS RESPECT HE CITED A MESSAGE FROM THE BUREAU OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL FFRICAN STUDENTS TO THE MISSION, A MESSAGE WHICH REFLECTS QUITE FAITHFULLY THE FEELINGS OF THE POPULTION OF BANGUI. UNQUOTE.

4. QUOTE. HAVING ARRIVED YESTERDAY EVENING IN OUR CAPITAL BY SPECIAL FLIGHT AND ACCOMPANIED BY AN IMPORTANT TEAM OF JOURNALISTS, THE LEGAL ADVISOR OF THE MEPEROR ALSO SPOKE UP TO DEPLORE " THE PUBLICITY GIVEN TO THIS REPORT WHICH SHOULD BE A CONFDENTIAL DOCUMENT". REPROACHING THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY FOR LACKING OBJECTIVITY, THE LEGAL ADVISOR OF HIS MAJESTY BOKASSA THE FIRST CONSIDERED THAT THE LATTER (THE REPORT) WOULD HAVE GAINED IN CREDIBILTY IF THE JUDGES HAD THOUGHT OF MAKING IT IN CONFRONTATION WITH THE OFFICIAL THESES CONCERNING THE PARTICIPATION OF THE MEPEROR IN THE MASSACRES. THE LEGAL ADVISOER MADE THE POINT THAT THE REPORT FURNISHES NO PROOF OF THIS AFFIRMTION, THAS NO STATEMENT BY THE PERSONS INTERROGATED IS AFFIRMTIVE ON THIS SUBJECT.

5. THE LEGAL ADVISOR, WHO SEEMED TO CONCLUDE THAT THE GOOD FAITH OF BOKASSA THE FIRST HAD BEEN BETRAYED"BANGUI HAVING ACCPETED TO RECEIVE A MISSIO OF INQUIRY ON INTERNAL PROBLEMS OF HIS COUNTRY", ALSC REPROACHED THE MISSION FOR HAVING ACCORDED MORE ATTENTION TO THE REMARKS OF THOSE IN OPPOSITION THAN TO THOSE OF THE AUTHORITIES. UNQUOTE.

6. QUOTE. TO ALL THESE ALLEGATIONS MR. YOUSSOUPHA NDIAYE ANSWERED BY REMARKING THAT THE SUPPORTERS OF THE EMPEROR FURNISHED THE MOST DEVASTATIN EVIDENCE AGAINST HIM. HE MENTIONED THE CIMATE OF GENERAL PSYCHOSIS WHICH PREVAILED IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN CAPITAL ALL DURING THE PERIOD OF THE INQUIRY END QUOTE.

7. QUOTE. THE REPORT OF 175 PAGES DRAWN UP BY THE MISSION IN COPIES WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO ALL OF THE HEADS OF STATE WHO WER PRESENT AT THE SUMMIT CONFERENCE OF THE FRANCO-AFRICAN HEADS OF STATE AT KIGALI AND TO AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL. UNQUOTE.
GALANTO

NOTE BY OC/T: PARAGRAPH 7 - AS RECEIVED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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